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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1923

WILL ROADS BE OBSOLETE?

In the 40-odd years from the end of the Civil war to 1910, the United States built the finest railroad system in the world, and this fine system of railroads tied the whole country together so closely that what otherwise might have been a loose aggregation of semi- independent states is today a closely knit nation with a government that is becoming constantly more centralized. Railroads played a powerful part—a dominant part—in its development.

Along about 1910 the automobile passed from the status of a toy to that of a real factor in the transportation situation, and from that time on we began to build more improved highways and fewer miles of railroad. So rapidly has this movement grown that while the nation and the various states and counties are now spending hundreds of millions for better roads the Eugene-Klamath Falls cut-off is the only major railroad building project under way in the United States. The automobile and the paved highway are knitting the country even more closely together than the railroads were able to do.

We are watching now the growth of a new transportation system—the airship. This new system is at present in the formative stage, and its accomplishments are confined chiefly to stunts that are designed more to show what can be done than what it is profitable to do. For example, a squadron of planes is now waiting in Eugene to refuel in the air other planes that are planning a non-stop flight from the Canadian to the Mexican border. This flight will serve no present commercial purpose, but like others of a similar nature it will prove what airplanes can do.

Will the airplane, in the fairly immediate future, succeed the automobile to the extent that the automobile has supplanted the railroad? Shall we expend billions for improved highways only to discover that the airship is a more efficient instrument of transportation than the automobile or the truck?

Offhand, one is inclined to answer emphatically in the negative. The airship—both the lighter and the heavier than air types—has yet certain manifest weaknesses that hamper its usefulness. It is expensive to operate and the factor of safety is under-developed. It is not as yet profitable to employ the airship for the ordinary uses of commerce, and besides people hesitate to trust their lives to it.

But here are some significant facts: The other day the huge Shenandoah, the navy's Zeppelin, traveled a mile on a gallon of gasoline. A few days later Lawrence Sperry completed a 2000-mile trip in his tiny "flivver" airplane, which has a wing spread of 20 feet, getting about double the mileage from his fuel that is secured by the average small automobile. This feat is said to have impressed Henry Ford to the extent that he calculated that by quantity production engines for such a plane could be built for $50 each.

Driving the huge Shenandoah a mile with a gallon of gasoline and getting with an air "flivver" twice the fuel mileage that can be made by a small automobile are feats that mean something, for in the long run it is the cheapest method of transportation that will prevail. The airship, it must be remembered, needs neither paved highway nor steel rails. If it can be operated more cheaply than either railroad trains or automobiles, the inventors will find in time a way to make it safe.

The best guess is that within the lifetime of people who are now in middle age the airplane will take its place as an important factor in the transportation situation. The automobile has not driven the railroad out of business—it has merely supplemented it. Neither will the airship render the automobile obsolete; it will probably supplement both paved highway and railroad.

NOT A BAD LAW

It is probable that more tommyrot has been talked about the state income tax that is to be voted on next month than has been talked about any other measure ever submitted to the people of Oregon. Its opponents have thrown about it a smoke screen of misrepresentation and mendacious misinformation, and its supporters have persistently claimed for it merits that it does not and cannot possess. It is not surprising if, between the two, the average voter is in a muddled state of mind.

To the damp accompaniment of bucketaful of crocodile tears, it is proclaimed that the income tax will hit the wage earner and the small salaried man. To be sure it will—if they are reasonably prosperous and can afford to be hit. An unmarried person, for instance, who receives a net income of $2000 will be assessed $10. A married man with three dependent children who receives a net income of $4000 will pay the huge tax of $8. Why shouldn't he pay that much? Can't he afford to?

It is urged that a state income tax will keep people and capital out of Oregon. Is the man with a wife and three children and a net income of $4000 going to be kept out of Oregon by a puny tax of $8? We need people to buy and develop our farms, our timber, our mines and our city property. Are such prospective citizens not much more likely to be kept out of Oregon by the present tax system, which loads 75 per cent of the total tax burden upon real estate?

It is objected that the proposed income tax is complicated. Possibly, but so is the federal income tax. It is unfortunately impossible to levy and collect an income tax without a certain amount of complication. But because it is complicated no one proposed to repeal the federal tax on incomes, for it is generally admitted that income is the best measure of ability to pay.

So much for the misrepresentations of the objectors. On the other side of the fence, the supporters of the income tax—many of them, at least—are proclaiming loosely that it will cut the farmers' taxes in half. That is the silliest kind of balderdash. The income tax is not expected to raise much more than a million dollars, and lopping only a million dollars off the sum of all the taxes levied on property in Oregon is not going to effect much of a reduction in the case of the individual taxpayer. It is probable that such reduction as might be effected would be hardly noticed.

The truth is that the income tax we are to vote on is a fair, mild and reasonably well considered law. It will hit no one harder than he can stand. It will keep no one away who really wants to come to Oregon. It is no more complicated than the involved nature of income taxation makes necessary.

On the other hand, it will not bring about large reductions in the taxes paid by owners of property and all who vote for it with that expectation will be disappointed. It is merely a step in the right direction—a beginning on the task of equalizing the tax burden between the owner of tangible property, who now bears approximately three-fourths of the total load, and the non-property-owning earner—or receiver—of a good income who now pays little or no state or local tax. It must be generally admitted by fair-minded persons that that is a task that ought to be undertaken.

THE BEST DRAMA

Americans, accustomed to regarding the American stage as rather cheap and tawdry, may cheer up. An American director, who happens to be in the business not for commercialism but for the purpose of boosting good plays and promoting appreciation of them, returning from a European tour of observation, has this to say:

European drama is for the most part as worthless as the general run of American drama. Where Europeans happen to write good plays, it takes Americans to produce them.

'In Paris the good modern plays are not succeeding. The plays that are making money are the cheap and sentimental productions representing popular phases of Parisian life. The two state theatres, the Odeon and Comedie Francaise, are far inferior to the best that can be seen in America in costuming and scenery. The situation is similar in Berlin, where the crowds flock to see cheap comedy and the sentimental in the drama, while the state theatre, reproducing the classics, is seldom crowded." He is not at all impressed by German stage art.

"So far as drama is concerned, I think it no exaggeration to say that America has become the cultural center of the world. Save for a few men and women, we are not yet writing superior drama, but even the work of European playwrights is receiving its best presentation and patronage on this side of the Atlantic."

RUSSIA ON UP-GRADE

Bad as Russia's political predicament is, its economic situation seems to be improving rapidly. John F. Sinclair, an American economist, writing from personal observation and inquiry, reports remarkable progress.

Food crops are large. Cotton is up to about two-thirds of pre-war production. Coal has reached one-third of pre-war production, and transportation is at about the same level. Many of the important industries are making a profit.

More remarkable is the progress of the government toward paying its own way. In 1920, says Mr. Sinclair, Russia raised less than 30 per cent of her expenses, borrowing or issuing fiat money for the rest. In 1921 the government raised 45 per cent. In 1922 the government figure rose to 60 per cent, and this year it may reach 85 per cent. Beginning with 1925, the commissioner of finance expects to make receipts balance expenditures.

The present showing is better than several other European countries are making. France does not appear to be doing so well. Is it possible that the Russian government, with all its vagaries and sins, is going to set an example of budget-balancing to the rest of Europe?

SIGNATURES

Why will business men sign their names in forms unintelligible to those with whom they desire to do business?

In one small business which has all its dealings by mail, hardly a week passes without a letter from some inquirer whose name cannot be deciphered. The secretary and one other member of the office staff have become fairly expert at this kind of thing. Painstakingly they refer back to the lines written by hand, if there are any, searching out familiar short words which cannot be mistaken, and checking up with the man's name, letter by letter. Sometimes they are assisted by the letterhead. Ordinary short English names can be guessed at with a fair degree of accuracy. Some straightaway names in other languages may be worked out likewise. But America has great numbers of names which belong to no language. They are adaptations or abbreviations which follow no known philological rules.

This particular office makes it a point to carry out the small courtesies which make business pleasant and smooth-running. One of these courtesies is spelling correctly the names of the people it deals with. Spelling a name incorrectly is irritating to any person.

Besides the personal aspect of the matter, the business aspect is important. Signatures are means of identification in every transaction, small or big. The man who thinks by means of a fancy or curious signature he can foil the forger is mistaken. Unusual flourishes are nuts to the criminal. It is the clear, simple writing that is hard to imitate, easy to identify. If a man just naturally cannot write plainly, he can have his name printed or typewritten somewhere on the sheet.

The wires carry the news that diplomatic relations between Bavaria and Saxony have been severed. That little item is interesting because it marks another step toward the French goal of splitting the German empire up into a number of independent and possibly warring states. That achievement, France believes, would insure her own safety.

Sin, the moralists tell us, always finds the wrongdoer out. Maybe; but the average modern citizen is more apt to be out when the committee calls to collect his church dues.

Blasting material, says a market page headline, is cheaper. The fellow whose hopes were blasted yesterday by betting on the wrong horse will believe that.

The Klamath Falls railway celebration was an amazing affair. Those in charge of the fund say there will be a dividend instead of a deficit.

It was reported by Zev's owner the other day that he had contracted skin trouble and might not be able to run a good race. Those who fell for the tip and changed their betting odds doubtless have their own opinion of where the "skin" trouble was.

A member of the jury that is trying the nauseous Stokes case injured his leg the other day. Probably his emotions overcame him and he tried to plant a swift kick where it would do the most good.

A New York biologist asserts that American women are rapidly becoming ugly. When the women get through with him, that fellow won't be as handsome as he was.

The Texas onion king died the other day, and in deference to his memory, we presume, there was not a dry eye at the funeral.

Senator Moses, of New Hampshire, says the Volstead act is a "jackass" statute. So he brays about it.

Early Days In Eugene

Thirty-four Years Ago

(From the Eugene Weekly Register, October 23, 1889.)

Peter Runey of Foley Springs has been in Eugene for a few days.

George H. Kelley, of Grants Pass, was in the city the first of the week. He has been working in the sash and door factory there, which burned a few days ago.

Sportsmen have been bringing in a few ducks during the past week.

The electric lights are now turned on about 4:30 p. m. each day.

Ernest Bross who has been living at Smithfield, Lane county, expects to resume his connections with the Oregonian in a few days.

Eugene is getting some hard knocks from the papers throughout the state for not supporting a theatre or town hall.

S. H. Friendly now has about 100 bales of hops stored in his warehouse on the depot grounds.

A baseball team from Eugene went to Harrisburg last Saturday and won the game by a score of 13 to 6.

The new church at Creswell is to be dedicated Sunday, October 27th. Rev. I. D. Driver will officiate.

W. H. Abrams is now engaged in making cider and vinegar at his factory in the eastern part of town.

R. R. Hayes and L. N. Rose contemplate the erection of a fine large hotel on the vacant lot near Charles Lauer's residence at Sixth and Willamette streets.

Salmon fishing on the Siuslaw river is about over, according to the Florence correspondent. The Florence Canning company will put up about 12,000 cases of salmon this year.

Settlers and sawmill men arrive at Florence on every steamer and lots in Glenada are selling very fast.

Pleasant Hill item: The happiest mortal in this neck of the woods is Halvor Wheeler. It's a boy.

Two greasy Italians with a performing bear were an attraction on the streets one day last week.

Midgley and Parker's planeing mill last week took in orders for materials for 12 new houses to be built in Eugene.

The physicians report considerable fever in the community. There have been but few severe cases, however.

Nineteen Years Ago

(From the Morning Register, October 21, 1904.)

Rev. D. E. Loveridge is busy gathering his fine grape crop on his place between Eugene and Springfield. He has 4000 vines on his farm and the yield this year is fully up to the average.

C. W. Lyons, of Walton, has come to Eugene and will reside on East Fifteenth street. While coming to Eugene with a load of his household goods, the hrse fell through a rotten part of the Long Tom bridge and it was with difficulty that he extricated them.

President Campbell left yesterday for the east and will attend the meeting of the association of State universities at Des Moines, Iowa, and the world's fair at St. Louis.

The commercial club met last night and the sentiment of the members was practically unanimous against the proposed prohibition measure. A committee consisting of C. A. Hardy, J. H. McClug and D. A. Paine was appointed to draft resolutions on the prohibition question.

Jim Jeffries, champion of the world, will appear at the Eugene theatre, November 2 in a play, "The New Davy Crockett."

W. L. Coppernoll and wife who have been visiting at The Dalles have arrived home.

George T. Hall has just finished a fine new cement walk in front of his new brick block on East Ninth street. We would like to see more of them.

Miss Florence Pollock, who has been attending high school, went to Goldson this week to begin her work as teacher of the Mt. Carmel school.

Married, at the United Brethren parsonage in Eugene, October 12, 1904, Wallace C. Brownson and Miss Alice Davis, both of Walterville, Rev. G. E. McDonald, officiating.

The Office Cat

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THE LITTLE THINGS

He came a little sooner
Than the other fellow did,
And stayed a little longer
Than the other fellow would.
He worked a little harder
And he talked a little less;
He was never really hurried,
And he showed but little stress,
For every little movement
His efficiency express.
He saved a little money,
In a hundred little ways,
And banked a little extra
When he got a little raise.
Of course, it's little wonder that
He murmurs with a smile
As his dividends come regular,
"Are the little things worth while."

We confess our inability to tell whether a classical dancer is trying to interpret a spring morning or trying to scratch her back.

"The sky's the limit," cried the aviator, as he flew over Pittsburgh.
"What fools these mortals be!" And they include both you and me.

The women needn't be so proud. The Lord, after having made Adam, seems to have hesitated a moment before he made Eve.

IS HER MIND MADE UP?

"Is that the gown you're going to wear to the dance tonight?"
"No, dear; so far I've decided on nothing."

He called to see his girl;
The fire was lit, but it went out;
The light was lit, and it went out,
And he was lit, and he went out.

BETCHA MISS THIS ONE

Eve (from the bushes)—"Adam, dear, close your eyes so I can come home."
Adam—"What's the matter, my own?"
Eve—"I've been A. W. O. L."

"I wish congress would enact a law to have all holidays fall on Tuesdays."
"Why Tuesdays?"
"Then most of us would have Mondays, also."

A GOOD CREEPER

Father—"How is it that I discover you kissing my daughter?"
Young Man—"I don't know, sir, unless it's because you wear rubber heels.

Every day will be Sunday by and by. Figure it our for yourself:

	Days
Every year has	365
If you sleep 8 hours a day it equals	122
This leaves	243
If you rest 8 hours a day	122
This leaves	121
There are 52 Sundays	52
This leaves	69
If you have half-day Saturday	26
This leaves	43
If you have 1½ hours for lunch	28
This leaves	15
Two weeks' vacation	14
Which leaves	1

This being Labor day, no one works. So you don't work after all.

"Time out!" said the pickpocket, as he walked off with the fat man's watch.

To appreciate your town spend a month in another town.

Before she gets him she is always talking about his worth. But after she gets him she is always talking about his worthlessness.

IT'S A TOMMY

There is a cat in our home,
And it is wondrous fat.
It don't have any kittens 'cause
It ain't that kind of cat.

It's a poor mule that doesn't work both ways.

MORE OPIUM USED IN CHINA

American Professor Says Greater Amount Is Being Consumed

Says if wheat could only be used as a substitute for hard coal we could almost afford to forget the rest of the problems that confront us.

China under pressure of internal strife, has relapsed deeply into the thralldom of narcotics, according to Rev. Dr. H. H. Gowen, professor of oriental languages and literature in the University of Washington, who has just returned to Seattle, Washington from a tour of the Orient.

"Farmers in many districts have been practically forced to return to the cultivation of the poppy," said Dr. Gowen today, "because the military governors have assessed their lands on the basis of what they will produce in opium. Military governors in other districts are actually paying their soldiers in opium."

Not since 1907, when the powers made their first effort to release China from narcotics, has the habit of their use been so firmly fixed as now, according to experts interviewed by Dr. Gowen. He said that morphine had been introduced and was having an effect many times worse than that of opium, to which the Chinese had become accustomed.

RUSSIAN GRAIN TO GERMANY

400,000 Tons Thus Far Exported Hamburg Reports Show

Russia has exported 600,000 tons of grain so far this year, according to statistics issued as Hamburg, whereof Germany has taken over two-thirds.

Before the war Russia exported about 8,000,000 tons of grain. The entire exports for this year are estimated between 2,500,000 and 3,000,000 tons.

ALL ELEMENTS OF WAR NOW ACTIVE IN EUROPE

(Continued from Page One.)

where. He has purchased order by reaction. The world has recently had occasion to realize that his patriotic ardors launched into the field on 'nternational affairs spell the unregenerate old international passions and injustices."

Bolshevism of New Type

Dean Rebec believes Italy has merely substituted for Bolshevism of the proletariat a Bolshevism of the 'better classes." Liberty of speech and of the press does not exist in Italy, and papers that are no more radical than the New York Times or the Boston Transcript are censored and even raided. The Oregon dean described the methods taken by the strong-arm squads to enforce the Mussolini rule, declaring:

"Democrats and republicans are regarded as suspicious characters. Those in power frankly repudiate democracy; republicanism is regarded as treason against the institution of monarchy."

The perils in Europe are seen coming to their clearest manifestation in Italy, and are strangely converging into one; the ascendancy of brutal reaction. The reaction just now, whether in foreign or in domestic affairs, is not so much of the mob as of the "best people."

Producing Classes At Work

The producing classes of Europe—peasants, workmen, business-men—are hard at work. The nations taken in the bulk, are healing the economic wounds and wastes of the war. The progress made by France in this respect is astounding, Dean Rebec declares. In addition to repairing wastages, the Republic of Czecho-Slovakia is doing striking creative work in many lines, notably those of education and human betterment. Outside of Austria, where things are improving, and outside of Great Britain, the mass of the population give the impression of being on a better level, all things considered, Dean Rebec says, than when he visited Europe in 1908. A better leaven, at least, of self-respect is discernible in the common masses.

Britain's Unemployment Is Factor

"The poverty in most cases is one of special classes and of the government rather than of the bulk of the population," said Dean Rebec. "Great Britian's suffering gravely from unemployment and discontent is active, but at the same time essentially temperate and practical-minded. This discontent does not find expression solely in labor unions and meetings of the unemployed; many professional men and 'intellectuals,' as well as members of the old fuedal aristocracy are severely critical of the whole economic order. The man of the most forlorn outlook, though not the most discontent, is doubtless the farm laborer.

"It is important to note that the war has not impaired British political liberty or the traditional British liberty of speech." Dean Rebec made the prediction that within the next twenty-five or thirty years England is likely to be the most effective center of social and economic change in western Europe.

Can You Afford to Own Your Home?

It is the secret of wish most families to own the family home. Ownership gives security to tenure, a feeling of satisfaction and pride, and an inducement to fix things up. Those sections of a city where home owners live are always the most attractive, whether the homes be large or small.

Home ownership makes better citizens, since those attached to the soil have a feeling of permanence, and responsibility. They care about everything which concerns the community and are strong for law enforcement and willing to help with enterprises of improvement. Only tenants can pick up and move out easily if the environment becomes undesirable. It is the old story of "whose ox is being gored." If the ox belongs to you, you care.

Housing experts advise families to gain possesion of a house as soon as they are able to do so. It is worth risking something for, if prospects are favorable at all. However, one should use common sense about considering all sides of the question before one gets itno it. There are young people getting a start in business who can make better use of their money by investing it in their business, to build the business up to better support the home. The house chosen should not be too expensive or make too much of a strain in upkeep or payments. It should be a property which will continue to be desirable and not decrease in value. It is a good plan to ask the advice of friends of good business judgment.

Unless a person has formed the habit of saving and has laid by enough to make a substantial first payment, he is apt to find difficulty in meeting regular payments. If one has a good income with prospects of its continuance for several years, he would be justified in agrceing to make payments somewhat larger than his present rent. The amount put into savings can go into this fund and some sacrifices in other expenses can usually be made.

One should take into consideration the family income, living expenses, as food, clothing, education, recreation, and contribution to worthy causes; the chance of illness or a "rainy day." It might be that the need for an auto, a piano, or sending a child to college would be more important than the immediate buying of a house. These things should be thought out in advance so that you will not be disappointed after you have gone into the deal.

In estimating how much the regular payments can be, the buyer should not forget to figure on interest on the principal, taxes, upkeep, and insurance—which he has not had to pay as a renter. Some families, who have lived in an apartment, overlook the item of fuel in heating the new house.

While caution is advisable, it is common experience that those who undertake to buy their home, paying for it in installments, are happily surprised to find how rapidly the family budget can be adapted to it and after ten or fifteen years they have their property out of debt, while those who have been paying rent all those years have nothing to show for it.

If one has a larger first payment, he can generally arrange a lower rate of interest and more easy payments. Twenty per cent of the cost is a good first payment, with easy installments following regularly. From one eighth to one third of the family income, depending on circumstances, is the average amount paid regularly by home-buyers.

SHIPS VALUED AT $226,733,315

U. S. Merchant Fleet Consists of 1334 Craft

The United States merchant fleet today is worth $226,733,315 in the opinion of shipping board experts at Washington, who have just completed an extensive survey.

Talking world-market conditions, the experts, after considerng types, capacity, machinery, loading devices and like factors, placed the board's first valuation on the 1334 craft making up the fleet.

Of the entire fleet, 416 ships are in operation or ready for spot delivery, of a value of $137,311,490, while 882 laid-up vessels are valued at $87,906,575, and 36 tugs are held at $1,515,000.

The recapitulation shows 365 cargo ships ready for delivery on the spot or in operation and 802 laid up. Nineteen tankers are running or ready, while 26 are laid up. Twelve of the fourteen refrigerator ships are laid up, and all nine of the concrete tankers and cargo vessels are out of commission. Nineteen vessels are classed as "damaged and obsolete."

Of the passenger ships 30 out of the 33 are in operation or ready for spot delivery. Those not laid up are valued at $46,390,000.

The total valuation on July 1 last, was given as $227,732,615, but since then six ships were sold for $999,300, the announcement of the shipping board said.

THOUSANDS OF WAR BOOKS

Eight Thousand Volumes Written By Americans Alone

Americans are writing about the war and the peace to such an extent that an American room will be established when the French war library and museum in Paris are moved into permanent quarters at the Chateau de Vincennes next year. There are already 8000 volumes by Americans, and the museum boasts that it has one of the finest collections of American war posters.

Germans, too, have been busy writing about the war. Their works comprise 25,000 volumes. France comes next.

This institution was set up by the government to develop the work started by a wealthy Frenchman who, early in the war, began assembling war documents.

ODDS AND ENDS

Who Are the Houris?

The name is given to the black-eyed damsel of paradise whose charms are set forth in the Koran. They are possessed of perpetual youth and beauty and await in the Moslem heaven the coming of all true believers, to each of which will be allotted 72 of these enticing creatures. The word "houri" is said to be derived from the Arabic hur-al-oyun (black-eyed).

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Digs Up Meteorite

A workman in a field in England recently saw a meteorite fall near him and dug it up. Only about fifteen falls of such "stones from the sky" have been recorded in the British Isles.

• • •

While the Going Was Good

Bill Roarer had a tremendously loud voice. One cold morning he walked into the village hotel and shouted out:

"Good morning, landlord! How are you?"

"Very well," came the reply. "How are you?"

"Oh, I'm about frozen—I can hardly talk!"

Just then a nervous traveler who was present ran up to the landlord, exclaiming:

"Please have my horse brought around as soon as possible."

"Why, what's the matter?" asked the landlord.

"Nothing. Only I want to get away before that man thaws!"—Atlanta Journal.

• • •

The Sticking to Ethics

The professor swims from the sinking boat and climbs up on the bank. Then, dashing in again, he returns to the wreck and rescues his wife.

"But why dind't you save her before?" asked the listener-in in wonderment.

"Ah, my dear sir," was the learned man's reply, "I was bound to save myself first. Self-preservation is the first law of nature."—Pittsburgh Post.

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Refrigeration Aids Miners

Refrigeration is a modern science that finds many uses. In mining it overcomes two great difficulties: The influx of water in porous formations and the heat of deep shafts. By freezing the surrounding earth, miners can carry their shafts through water-bearing strata, and by supplying themselves with cool air they can penetrate the earth to great depths.

FOSSILS FROM THE ICE AGE

Scientist Discovers Skeletons of Men, Women and Animals

Skeletons of prehistoric men and women from the ice ages, a mammoth, two lions, a hyena, a wolverine, five cave bears and at least sixty fossil beavers have been found in the vast system of underground palaces formed by nature in the limestone rock of central Moravia now being explored by Dr. Karel Absolon, curator of the Brno museum of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Ales Hrdlicka of the United States National museum, who is in Europe studying cave men for the United States Smithsonian Institution, will report these discoveries in a communication to the next issue of Science.

The skeletons of many of these mamals of the glacial period of the earth's history are in an excellent state of preservation, he says. The cave bears' remains are almost complete and will be mounted as a group in the Provincial museum at Brno (Brunn), while the teeth and skulls of the beavers are also considered of highest scientific value.

The great subterrancan halls, with their numerous columns, stalactite and stalagmite forms, are being energetically explored and are said to rival in beauty the famous caverns in Virginia and Kentucky.

HIS FIRST ATTEMPT AT WORK

Curious Experience of College Student Trying to Earn Money

Many students attending the universities of Indiana pay part of their college expenses by doing odd jobs. Several years ago a young man applied at the Y. M. C. A. employment office of one of the universities and asked for work. He was directed to the home of one of the professors.

His first duty was to mop the kitchen floor. Mrs. H. supplied a mopstick, some rags and a bucket. She was upstairs sewing a few minutes later when he called, "What shall I do with the water?"

"Throw it out."

"But I can't."

She came down to investigate. She found the kitchen floor flooded and the new helper on a chair holding the dry rags and empty bucket. He explained that he had never mopped a floor before, so he had filled the bucket with water about eight times and emptied it on the floor.

The young man is now a practicing physician in Indianapolis.

Oregon in Goitre District

Frequency Here Is High

What Goitre Is

Due to Lack of Iodin

Is Absolutely Preventable

BY FREDERICK D. STRICKER, D., Collaborating Epidemiologist, Oregon State Board of Health, in connection with United States Public Service.

The fact that Oregon lies in recognizes goitre district is fully appreciated. This is largely due to the fact that a specific attempt has been made to appraise the public and profession regarding its prevalence. The available, reliable data the state-wide in significances is contained in the published of the war department. records apply only to young between the ages of 18 and knowing the goitre ages, and relative frequency in males and males, we can deduce the fairly reliable information. these draft records it was that 26.31 men per thousand amined from Oregon had goitre. This rate is the for any state with the exception of Idaho, with a 26.91 per thousand.

Simple or endemic goitre velops most commonly during life, around the age of and during pregnancy. goitre is two to three times prevalent in females than Using the draft records as terion and considering all both sexes the rate of goitre in Oregon must be 40 per thousand population.

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"Simple goitre," states and Kimball, "includes all thyroid enlargements in animals formerly grouped demic, epidemic, sporadic, physiologic. It must be distinguished from exophthalgoiter, with which it has no essary association, or etiological relationship. Exophthalmic so far as is yet definitely occurs in all animals having ductless thyroid. Exophthalgoitre is not naturally with districts, while with goitre this is most characteristic.

"The ultimate cause of goitre is totally unknown, withstanding a relatively amount of study. The immediate cause is a lack of iodin. The largement, therefore, is a stigma and may result from any tor which increases the iodin of the organism, as in certain types of infection, or which interferes with the normal utilization of iodin, or it may result from actual experimental deprivation of iodin. The conception that goitre is due to a contagium vivum in the sense that this term is ordinarily used may be abandoned.

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"Water has been associated as an etiological factor by all peoples as far back as history goes. . . . If water is a factor, it would seem that it is the absence of, rather than the presence of, some substance, which is to be considered, since goitre is associated with the purest of waters chemically and bacteriologically as for example in Portland, Oregon, or in Seattle and Tacoma, Washington, where there has been a rapid increase in goitre since these cities began taking their water supply from the Cascade mountains. After consideration of all the various substances, agents, and factors that have been put forward as having a role in the etiology of goitre, we at present must fall back on the view that the condition is a hyperplasia (goitre) is a compensatory reaction arising in the course of a metabolic disturbance and immediately depending upon a relative or an absolute deficiency of iodin."

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Diagnosis should not be difficult in an area where the condition is endemic. Any tumor in the thyroid region connected with the trachea, rising and falling with swallowing, and with a soft consistency is probably goitre.

The immediate cause of simple goitre being the total absence, or the deficiency of iodin, the prevention of the condition is relatively simple. If every woman would keep her thyroid saturated with iodin during every pregnancy she would not develop goitre, and would there be any tendency toward goitre formation in the thyroid of her child. This would avoid two of the goitre periods in the life of any individual. Thus every girl would keep her thyroid saturated with iodin during adolescence, that is, from the age of 11 to 16 inclusive, none would develop goitre.

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For the prevention of goitre milligrams of iodin in the form of an organic iodide is given to each week throughout the year.

We feel that the maximum good would be gained by applying the principle of goitre prevention to girls as a public health measure. This can best be done through our public and private school organizations, and education on the subject will insure application of this method of goitre prevention in later life. The prevention of goitre during pregnancy depends upon the medical profession, and the education of the people as a whole. Each family physician and obstetrician should make it an important part of the routine care of every patient.

VOICE WITH FIVE OCTAVES

Austrian Utters Notes Whose Vibrations Range to 1740 a Second

At a recent meeting of the Austrian society of experimental physics in Vienna, Doctor Rethi presented Michael Prita, age four, whose voice possesses the remarkable range of five complete octaves.

The deepest note uttered by this singer was a bass F corresponding to 42 vibrations per second and two octaves lower, therefore, than the deepest note which can be produced on the violin. The only previous record of so low a tone in the human voice is that of a bass singer named Fischer, who lived in the early part of the 19th century. Prita also rendered upper C with its full artistic value.

Beyond that the notes pass into the head register and into falsetto resembling a soprano, says the English Mechanic quoted by the Scientific American. The highest notes emitted were the upper F demi-semi quaver), and on exceptional occasions upper A (demi-semi quaver), corresponding to 1740 vibrations per second which is only a little higher than the highest note ever sung by Patti.